

ABSTRACT

A gene expressed specifically in mesangial cells. A DNA  
expressed specifically in mesangial cells; a protein encoded by  
5 this DNA; an antibody binding to this protein, etc. These  
substances are indigenous to mesangial cells and, therefore,  
useful in, for example, identifying mesangial cells and detecting  
abnormalities in mesangial cells. Moreover, the above protein  
would be helpful for clarification of the functions of masangial  
10 cells and, in its turn, for clarification of the causes of diseases  
relating to masangial cells. This protein is expectedly  
applicable to the treatment and diagnosis of diseases relating  
to masangial cells.

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